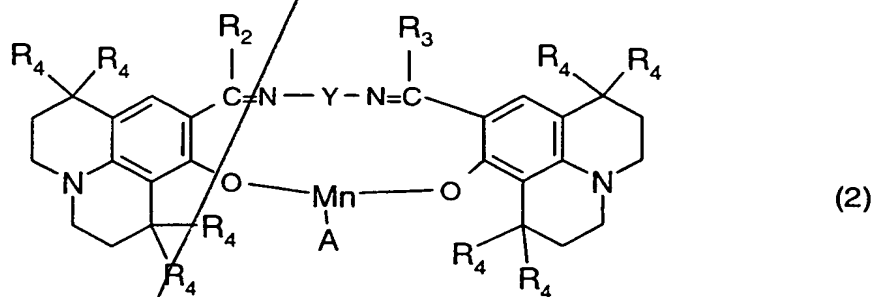
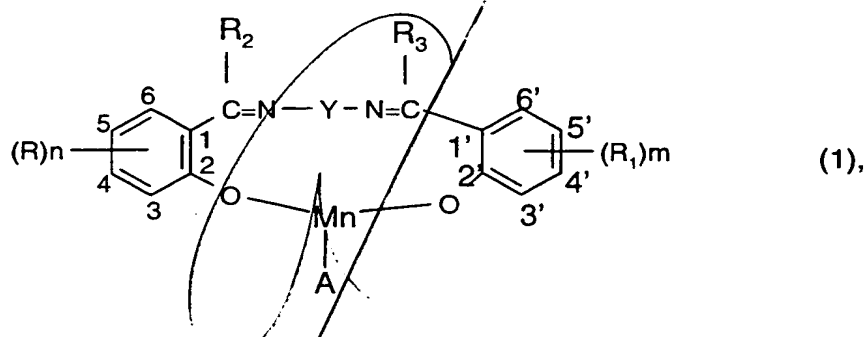
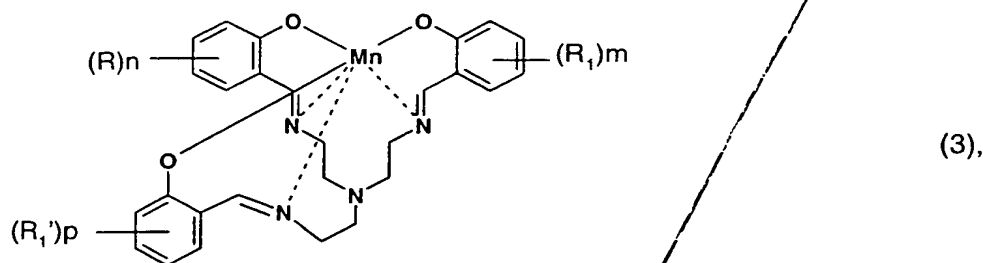


What is claimed is:

1. Water-soluble granules of salen-type manganese complexes, comprising
 - a) from 1 to 89 % by weight, preferably from 1 to 30 % by weight, of a water-soluble salen-type manganese complex,
 - b) from 10 to 95 % by weight of a dissolution restrainer,
 - c) from 0 to 20 % by weight of a further additive and
 - d) from 1 to 15 % by weight of water, based on the total weight of the granules.
2. Granules according to claim 1 that comprise as manganese complex a compound of formula



or



wherein

A is an anion;

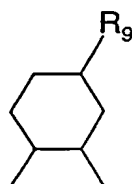
m, n and p are each independently of the others 0, 1, 2 or 3,

R₄ is hydrogen or linear or branched C₁-C₄alkyl,

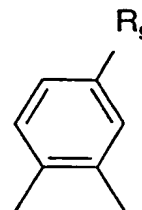
Y is a linear or branched alkylene radical of formula $-[C(R_4)_2]_r-$, wherein r is an integer from 1 to 8 and the R₄ radicals are each independently of the others as defined above;

-CX=CX-, wherein X is cyano, linear or branched C₁-C₈alkyl or di(linear or branched C₁-C₈alkyl)amino;

-(CH₂)_q-NR₄-(CH₂)_q-, wherein R₄ is as defined above and q is 1, 2, 3 or 4; or a 1,2-cyclohexylene radical of formula:



or a 1,2-aryl radical of formula



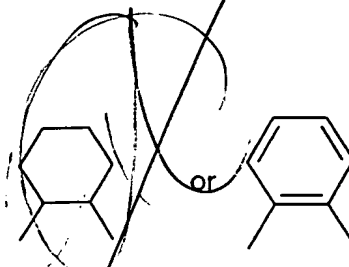
wherein R₉ is hydrogen, SO₃H, CH₂OH or CH₂NH₂,

R, R₁ and R₁' are each independently of the others cyano; halogen; OR₄ or COOR₄ wherein R₄ is as defined above; nitro; linear or branched C₁-C₈alkyl; linear or branched partially fluorinated or perfluorinated C₁-C₈alkyl; or NHR₆, NR₅R₆ or N[⊕]R₅R₆R₇ wherein R₅, R₆ and R₇ are the same or different and are each hydrogen or linear or branched C₁-C₁₂alkyl or wherein R₅ and R₆ together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bonded form a 5-, 6- or 7-membered ring, which may contain further hetero atoms, or are linear or branched C₁-C₈alkyl-R₈ wherein R₈ is a radical OR₄, COOR₄ or NR₅R₆ as defined above or is NH₂ or N[⊕]R₅R₆R₇ wherein R₅, R₆ and R₇ are as defined above,

R₂ and R₃ are each independently of the other hydrogen, linear or branched C₁-C₄alkyl, unsubstituted aryl or aryl that is substituted by cyano, by halogen, by OR₄ or COOR₄ wherein

R_4 is hydrogen or linear or branched C_1 - C_4 alkyl, by nitro, by linear or branched C_1 - C_8 alkyl, by NHR_5 or NR_5R_6 , wherein R_5 and R_6 are the same or different and are each linear or branched C_1 - C_{12} alkyl or wherein R_5 and R_6 together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bonded form a 5-, 6- or 7-membered ring, which may contain further hetero atoms, by linear or branched C_1 - C_8 alkyl- R_7 wherein R_7 is an OR_4 , $COOR_4$ or NR_5R_6 radical as defined above or is NH_2 , or by $N^{\oplus}R_5R_6R_7$ wherein R_5 , R_6 and R_7 are as defined above.

3. Granules according to claim 2 that comprise as manganese complex a compound of formula (1) or (2) wherein Y is a radical of formula $-(CH_2)_r-$ wherein r is an integer from 1 to 4, especially 2, or is a radical of formula $-C(R_4)_2-(CH_2)_p-C(R_4)_2-$ wherein p is a number from 0 to 3, especially 0, and each R_4 , independently of the others, is hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 alkyl, especially hydrogen or methyl, or is a 1,2-cyclohexylene radical or a 1,2-phenylene radical of formula:



4. Granules according to either claim 2 or claim 3 that comprise as manganese complex a compound of formula (1), (2) or (3) wherein the radicals R , R_1 and R_1' are hydrogen, OR_4 , $N(R_4)_2$ or $N^{\oplus}(R_4)_3$ and the R_4 groups in $N(R_4)_2$ or $N^{\oplus}(R_4)_3$ may be different and are each hydrogen or C_1 - C_4 alkyl, especially methyl, ethyl or isopropyl.

5. Granules according to any one of claims 2 to 4 that comprise as manganese complex a compound of formula (1), (2) or (3) wherein the radicals R_2 and R_3 are hydrogen, methyl, ethyl or unsubstituted phenyl.

6. Granules according to any one of claims 2 to 5 that comprise as manganese complex a compound of formula (1) or (2) wherein the anion A is a halide, perchlorate, sulfate, nitrate, hydroxide, BF_4^- , PF_6^- , carboxylate, acetate, tosylate or triflate.

7. Granules according to any one of claims 2 to 6 that comprise from 1 to 30 % by weight of manganese complex of formula (1), (2) or (3), based on the total weight of the granules.

8. Granules according to any one of claims 1 to 7 that comprise as dissolution restrainer an anionic dispersing agent, a non-ionic dispersing agent or a water-soluble organic polymer.

9. Granules according to any one of claims 1 to 8 that comprise as anionic dispersing agent a condensation product of a naphthalenesulfonic acid with formaldehyde, a sodium salt of a polymerised organic sulfonic acid, a (mono-/di-)alkylnaphthalenesulfonate, a polyalkylated polynuclear arylsulfonate, a sodium salt of a polymerised alkylbenzenesulfonic acid, a lignosulfonate, an oxylignosulfonate or a condensation product of naphthalenesulfonic acid with a polychloromethyldiphenyl.

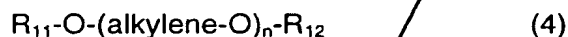
10. Granules according to any one of claims 1 to 8 that comprise as non-ionic dispersing agent a compound from the following group:

1. fatty alcohols having from 8 to 22 carbon atoms, especially cetyl alcohol,
2. addition products of preferably from 2 to 80 mol of alkylene oxide, especially ethylene oxide, in which individual ethylene oxide units may have been replaced by substituted epoxides, such as styrene oxide and/or propylene oxide, with higher unsaturated or saturated monoalcohols, fatty acids, fatty amines or fatty amides having from 8 to 22 carbon atoms, or with benzyl alcohols, phenylphenols, benzylphenols or alkylphenols in which the alkyl radicals have at least 4 carbon atoms,
3. alkylene oxide condensation products, especially propylene oxide condensation products (block polymers),
4. ethylene oxide/propylene oxide adducts with diamines, especially ethylenediamine,
5. reaction products of a fatty acid having from 8 to 22 carbon atoms with a primary or secondary amine having at least one hydroxy-lower alkyl or lower alkoxy-lower alkyl group, or alkylene oxide addition products of such hydroxyalkyl-group-containing reaction products,
6. sorbitan esters, preferably having long-chained ester groups, or ethoxylated sorbitan esters, such as, for example, polyoxyethylene-sorbitan monolaurate having from 4 to 10 ethylene oxide units or polyoxyethylene-sorbitan trioleate having from 4 to 20 ethylene oxide units,
7. addition products of propylene oxide with a tri- to hexa-hydric aliphatic alcohol having from 3 to 6 carbon atoms, for example glycerol or pentaerythritol, and

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8. fatty alcohol polyglycol mixed ethers, especially addition products of from 3 to 30 mol of ethylene oxide and from 3 to 30 mol of propylene oxide with aliphatic monoalcohols having from 8 to 22 carbon atoms.

11. Granules according to claim 9 that comprise as non-ionic dispersing agent a surfactant of formula



wherein

R_{11} is C_8-C_{22} alkyl or C_8-C_{18} alkenyl;

R_{12} is hydrogen; C_1-C_4 alkyl; a cycloaliphatic radical having at least 6 carbon atoms or benzyl;

"alkylene" is an alkylene radical having from 2 to 4 carbon atoms and

n is a number from 1 to 60.

12. Granules according to any one of claims 1 to 8 that comprise as water-soluble polymer a compound from the following group:

polyethylene glycols, copolymers of ethylene oxide with propylene oxide, gelatin, polyacrylates, polymethacrylates, polyvinylpyrrolidones, vinylpyrrolidones, vinyl acetates, polyvinylimidazoles, polyvinylpyridine N-oxides, copolymers of vinylpyrrolidone with long-chained α -olefins, copolymers of vinylpyrrolidone with vinylimidazole, poly(vinylpyrrolidone/dimethylaminoethyl methacrylates), copolymers of vinylpyrrolidone/dimethylaminopropyl methacrylamides, copolymers of vinylpyrrolidone/dimethylaminopropyl acrylamides, quaternised copolymers of vinylpyrrolidones and dimethylaminoethyl methacrylates, terpolymers of vinylcaprolactam/vinylpyrrolidone/dimethylaminoethyl methacrylates, copolymers of vinylpyrrolidone and methacrylamidopropyl-trimethylammonium chloride, terpolymers of caprolactam/vinylpyrrolidone/dimethylaminoethyl methacrylates, copolymers of styrene and acrylic acid, polycarboxylic acids, polyacrylamides, carboxymethylcellulose, hydroxymethylcellulose, polyvinyl alcohols, optionally hydrolysed polyvinyl acetate, copolymers of ethyl acrylate with methacrylate and methacrylic acid, copolymers of maleic acid with unsaturated hydrocarbons and mixed polymerisation products of the said polymers.

13. Granules according to claim 12 that comprise as organic polymer carboxymethylcellulose, a polyacrylamide, a polyvinyl alcohol, a polyvinylpyrrolidone, gelatin, a hydrolysed

polyvinyl acetate, a copolymer of vinylpyrrolidone and vinyl acetate, a polyacrylate, a copolymer of ethyl acrylate with methacrylate and methacrylic acid or a polymethacrylate.

14. Granules according to claim 1 that comprise the dissolution restrainer in an amount of from 10 to 95 % by weight, preferably from 15 to 85 % by weight and especially from 25 to 75 % by weight, based on the total weight of the granules.

15. A washing agent formulation comprising

I) from 5 to 90 %, preferably from 5 to 70 %, A) of an anionic surfactant and/or B) of a non-ionic surfactant,

II) from 5 to 70 %, preferably from 5 to 50 %, especially from 5 to 40 %, C) of a builder substance,

III) from 0.1 to 30 %, preferably from 1 to 12 %, D) of a peroxide and

IV) granules according to any one of claims 1 to 14 in such an amount that the washing agent formulation comprises from 0.005 to 2 %, preferably from 0.02 to 1 %, especially from 0.1 to 0.5 %, of the pure manganese complex of formula (1), (2) or (3), the percentage figures in each case being percentages by weight based on the total weight of the washing agent.

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